

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04

OPIC-06 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 INT-05 GSA-02

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R 021830Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4953

UNCLAS LA PAZ 7853

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, BL

SUBJ: SOUTH AMERICAN PLACERS INC. KSAPI)

REF: LA PAZ 548, 1412, 2180 AND 5635

SUMMARY: PRESS NOVEMBER 28 ANNOUNCED BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT
DECREED REVERSION TO STATE OF 10,000 HECTARES OF SAPI'S
GOLD ALLUVIAL CONCESSIONS HELD SINCE 1956 ALONG COROICO,
CHALLANA, TIPUANI, MAPIRI, AND CONSATA RIVERS. SAPI AGREED
TO REVERSION WHICH IN ADDITION SIMULTANEOUSLY RESOLVED
BACK TAXES LITIGATION WITH BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT.

1. MINMINES TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL GOLD POLICY BY JANUARY,
1975 FOR EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF GOLD RESOURCES.
MINMINES REPORTEDLY STATED ALL NEGOTIATIONS AND PETITIONS
TO OBTAIN GOLD ALLUVIAL CONCESSIONS FROM GOVERNMENT
SUSPENDED UNTIL GOLD POLICY ESTABLISHED WITH HELP FROM
MINFIN AND DEVELOPMENT CORP. OF ARMED FORCES (COFADENA).
ADDED THAT IN JANUARY, 1975 MINISTRY MINING WILL HAVE
COORDINATED PLANNED BASE FOR DEVELOPMENT GOLD
PLACERS.

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2. LATE NOVEMBER 29, JULIO JAUREGUI, SAPI'S MANAGER TOLD MINATT THAT SAPI SATISFIED ON OUTCOME NEGOTIATIONS WITH MINMINES. SAPI ORIGINALLY WAS CHARGED WITH BACK TAXES AMOUNTING TO 2,240 TROY OUNCES OF GOLD BUT FINALLY AFTER NEGOTIATING HAD TO PAY, WITHIN 90 DAYS STARTING APPROXIMATELY NOVEMBER 26, ONLY 751 TROY OUNCES OF GOLD. JAUREGUI MENTIONED POWER PLANT FOR GUANAY WILL BE FINISHED BY END DECEMBER AND ESTIMATED COST AT US\$ 175,000. SAPI ALSO MUST PUT IN POTABLE WATER LINE AT US\$ 12,000 COST.

3. COMMENTING ON CAMINO GOLD MINES, CANADIAN COMPANY WORKING IN VICINITY OF TIPUANI, JAUREGUI STATED CANADIAN CO. WILL BE IN UNTENABLE POSITION LATER WHEN IT STARTS WORKING CONCESSION BECAUSE OF VIOLENT COOPERATIVE OPPOSITION. STEDMAN

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